



Maine Department of Conservation
Natural Areas Program

Galium kamtschaticum Steller ex J.A. & J.H. Schultes

Boreal Bedstraw

- Habitat:** Cool woods, thickets, streamsides.
[Hardwood to mixed forest (forest, upland)]
- Range:** Cape Breton Island, Quebec, northern New England, and northern New York.
- Phenology:** Flowers June - August.
- Family:** Rubiaceae

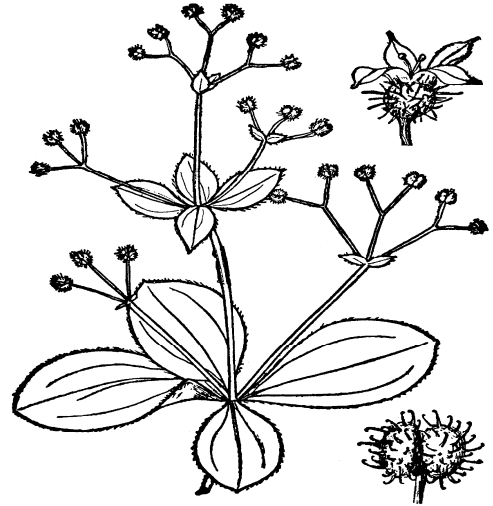


Illustration from Britton & Brown's Illustrated Flora of the Northern United States and Canada, 2nd ed.

Aids to Identification: Boreal bedstraw has oval leaves arranged in whorls of four along 4-angled stems. The yellowish-green flowers are all on pedicels 4-12mm long. It is distinguished from other perennials in the bedstraw genus by its 3-nerved, oval leaves and the fact that all of the flowers are borne on a slender pedicel. Closely related bedstraws with wide leaves, such as *Galium circaezans*, have some flowers pedicellate and others sessile.

Ecological characteristics: Known to occur in rich woods in Maine.

Synonyms:

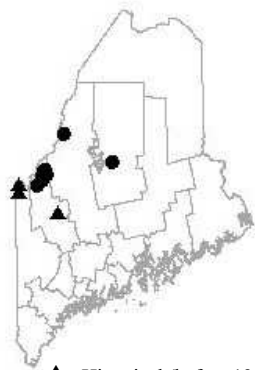
Rarity of *Galium kamtschaticum*

State Rank:	S2	Imperiled in Maine because of rarity or vulnerability to further decline.
New England Rank:	INDT	Indeterminate. Under review for inclusion in appropriate division. Taxonomy, nomenclature, or status not clearly understood.
Global Rank:	G5	Demonstrably widespread, abundant, and secure globally.

Status of *Galium kamtschaticum*

Federal Status:	None	No Federal Status.
State Status:	Threatened	Rare and with further decline could become endangered.

Known Distribution in Maine:



▲ Historical (before 1982)
● Recent (1982 - present)

This rare plant has been documented from a total of 8 town(s) in the following county(ies): Franklin, Oxford, Piscataquis, Somerset

Dates of documented observations are: 1962, 1974 (2), 1999 (4), 2000 (4), 2001, 2002

Reason(s) for rarity:

At southern limit of range.

Conservation considerations:

Logging operations should leave an uncut buffer around the streams where these plants occur near. It is unclear how canopy removal would affect the populations

The information in this fact sheet was downloaded from the Natural Areas Program's Biological and Conservation Database on 04 MAY 2004. We are grateful to our Botanical Advisory Group for additional information on particular species, and in particular, to Arthur Haines for his assistance with identifying characteristics and taxonomic questions. Nomenclature follows Haines and Vining's *Flora of Maine* (V.F. Thomas Press, 1998); where older works refer to a plant by another name, it is given under "Synonyms". The Natural Areas Program, within the Department of Conservation, maintains the most comprehensive source of information on Maine's rare or endangered plants and rare or exemplary natural communities, and is a member of the Association for Biodiversity Information.

If you know of locations for this plant or would like more information on this species,
please contact the Natural Areas Program
State House Station 93, Augusta, Maine 04333; telephone (207) 287-8044.

